

# THE HEIGHT OF THE RIDICULOUS

SONG FOR BARITONE

WORDS BY

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

MUSIC BY

CHARLES HENRY HART

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# The Height of the Ridiculous

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

CHARLES HENRY HART

*Lightly, with humor*

*p with humor*

I wrote some lines once on a time In won-drous mer-ry mood, And

thought as u-sual men would say, They were ex-ceed-ing good.

*pp*

They were so queer, so ver - y queer, I laughed as I would die, Al -

be - it, in the gen - 'ral way, A so - ber man am I.

I called my ser - vant, and he came; How kind it was of him, To

mind a slen - der man like me, He of the might - y limb.

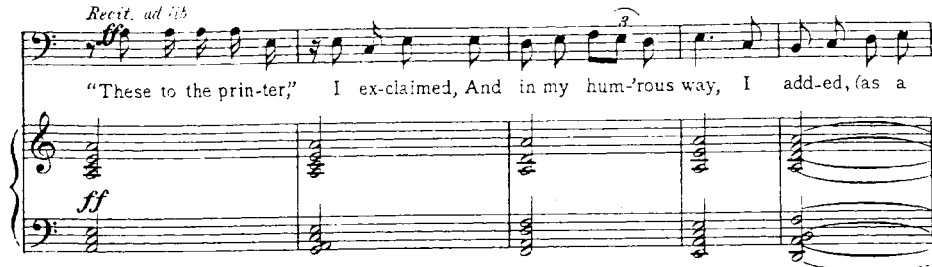
*rit*

*rit*

*pp*

*Recit. ad lib*

"These to the prin-ter," I ex-claimed, And in my hum-'rous way, I add-ed, (as a



tri-ling jest) "There'll be the devil to pay". He took the pa-per, and I watched, And



saw him peep with-in; At the first line he read, his face Was all up-on the

grin. He read the next; the grin grew broad, And

shot from ear to ear; He read the third; a chuck-ling noise I now be-gan to hear. The

fourth; he broke in - to a roar; The fifth, his waist-band split; The sixth; he burst five

*marc. e rit*

**Presto** *lunga p* **Largo** *quasi doloroso*

but-tons off, And tum-bled in a fit. Ten days and nights, with sleep-less eye, I

*lunga* *lunga* *quasi doloroso*

*a tempo* *ad lib.*

watch'd that wretch-ed man, And since, I nev-er dare to write As fun-ny as I can.

*f a tempo*

*Red. \* Red. \* Red. \**